



FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING

Minutes

Virtual via Zoom

Monday, February 13th, 7:00p – 8:30p

- **Gather (7:00p – 7:10p)**
 - Popcorn style:
 - Your name
 - Your personal pronouns (if you are comfortable sharing)
 - What is one thing you do to keep your spirits up midwinter?

- **Reports & Minutes (7:10p-7:20p)**
 - Call to Order
 - Note: Meeting did not reach a quorum of at least 15 members
 - Agenda Overview
 - Chair's Report
 - Excited about successful first Issues Subcommittee meeting!
 - Elle S. gave a quick update about that meeting
 - Treasurer's Report
 - January financial report available [HERE](#)
 - Kim not in attendance
 - Minutes approval
 - Unable to vote to approve minutes – no quorum

- **Officer Election for PDCC Secretary (7:20p-7:30p)**
 - Unable to vote on PDCC Secretary – no quorum

- **Discussion: Black History Month and Book Bans - what can we do? (7:30p-7:50p)**
 - There is some interest from the group on this topic
 - Meg H. presented on PEN America report on book banning in schools
 - However, the consensus is that we need more information before we can decide if there are local actions to be taken
 - PDCC Executive Committee will be reaching out to ACLU for counsel on if/how to proceed
 - Is book banning an issue in Portland?
 - What are preventative measures we can take to prevent this kind of legislation from going through?
 - What are ways to combat the effects of book banning in communities where this kind of legislation has already passed?
 - Elle S. pointed out that there are a couple of bills currently in front of the legislature that focus on censorship
 - Especially LR789: “An Act to Establish a Rating System for Books in School Libraries”



- Discussion: COVID in Maine: Now and Moving Forward with Kristine Jenkins (7:50p-8:05p)
 - Presentation was cancelled as Kristine Jenkins could not make it

- Legislative & Policy Update (8:05p-8:20p)
 - Reps. Skold and Zager were in attendance to present on their current projects (thanks to you both!)
 - Rep. Charles Skold:
 - Working on a weekend early voting bill
 - Working on bill to improve retirement package for teachers
 - Rep. Sam Zager:
 - Working on bill to make sure that renters' regular monthly rent payments count towards their credit score

- Announcements and Adjourn (8:20p-8:30p)
 - Elle S. announced upcoming Issues Subcommittee meeting and invited folks to participate in the Google group
 - March General Meeting will be on Sunday, 3/12 from 7:00p – 8:30p